



The \_\_\_\_\_  
First Congregational Church  
of Woodstock \_\_\_\_\_

*Declaring, "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today,  
and forever." Hebrews 13:8*

*January 9th, 2022*



## Lead On, O King Eternal

*I am the LORD your God ... who directs you in the way you should go. Is. 48:17*

1. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;  
 2. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;

hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home:  
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing where - e'er thy face ap - pears;

through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,  
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,  
 thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
 but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

## Collective Confession

Congregation

Holy Father, we long to have You change our hearts. We confess to You that we do not obey You as we should. We don't think Your thoughts, speak Your truth, or do the good that You command. We do not love our neighbors as You have loved us. We bend the truth to our own purposes. We harbor bitterness when we don't get our own way. We neglect and leave the oppressed with no defender. We break Your holy law and delight in what You have forbidden. Merciful Lord, we humbly ask that You would forgive us and change our hearts. Conform us to the image of Your Son. Holy Spirit, work in us we pray, that we might be like You.

## Silent Reflection and Confession

## Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 130

Pastor

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. He Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

## Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

- ❖ Affirmation of Faith *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*<sup>1</sup> Congregation
- Pastor: What is the chief end of man?
- Congregation: Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.**
- Pastor: What rule has God given to direct us in how to glorify and enjoy Him?
- Congregation: The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us as to how we may glorify and enjoy Him.**

## ❖ Creedal Song #735

*Gloria Patri*

Congregation

<sup>1</sup> A catechism is a question and answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written in 1647 in England primarily as an aid for teaching children. It has been used by congregations and families in both worship and instruction for the past 350 years.

735

## Gloria Patri

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor  
of his holiness. Ps. 29:2*

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

❖ Scripture Reading

Hebrews 10:19-25

Pastor

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Deacons' Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection #597

*Though I May Speak  
with Bravest Fire*

Congregation

# Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

597

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 1 Cor. 13:1*

G
Unison
D
G
C
G
C
Gsus
G
Bm

1. Though I may speak with brav-est fire, and have the  
 2. Though I may give all I pos - sess, and striv - ing  
 3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol, our spir - its

Em
Am
G
D
D/C
Bm
Am<sup>7</sup>
G
D/A
G

gift to all in - spire, and have not love,  
 so my love pro - fess, but not be giv'n  
 long to be made whole. Let in - ward love

Am
G
C
G
Am
G/B
C
Dsus
D
C
G

my words are vain, as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.  
 by love with - in, the pro - fit soon turns strange - ly thin.  
 guide ev - ery deed; by this we wor - ship and are freed.

Hal Hopson, 1972

GIFT OF LOVE L.M.  
 American folk tune  
 Arr. by Hal Hopson, 1972

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## *“The Church in Philippi—Origin Story”*

### Acts 16:11-40

<sup>11</sup> So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. <sup>13</sup> And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. <sup>14</sup> One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

<sup>16</sup> As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup> And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. <sup>20</sup> And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, “These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. <sup>21</sup> They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice.” <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. <sup>23</sup> And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. <sup>24</sup> Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, <sup>26</sup> and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the



prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” <sup>29</sup> And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” <sup>31</sup> And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” <sup>32</sup> And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. <sup>34</sup> Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

<sup>35</sup> But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, “Let those men go.” <sup>36</sup> And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, “The magistrates have sent to let you go. Therefore come out now and go in peace.” <sup>37</sup> But Paul said to them, “They have beaten us publicly, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and do they now throw us out secretly? No! Let them come themselves and take us out.” <sup>38</sup> The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens. <sup>39</sup> So they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. <sup>40</sup> So they went out of the prison and visited Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them and departed.

❖ Hymn of Response #30     *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*     Congregation

# Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

*Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Ps. 90:1*

♩ C F C Am Dm G C 7 Am Em Am D

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

C F Dm G C F E 7 C F C Dm G C 7

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,  
with all their lives and cares,  
are carried downward by your flood,  
and lost in foll'wing years.
- 6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all its sons away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.
- 7. Our God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come:  
O be our guard while troubles last,  
and our eternal home.

From Psalm 90  
Isaac Watts, 1719  
Alt. 1990, mod.

ST. ANNE C.M.  
Attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727  
Tate and Brady's Supplement to the New Version.

Benediction

Jude 24-25

Pastor

Pastor: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer.*

Postlude

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*~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~  
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~*

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The flowers today are given in loving memory of Evelyn  
and Roderick English by Edwin English.

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Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight  
at 6 pm in the church library.

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Deacons' Offering – Today, January 9th

Our church receives many requests for help from not just within our church body but the community at large. The deacons have a great many opportunities to share God's love with folks in need, whether it is paying a bill for them or buying them a pair of glasses. This is a vital ministry that our church has to reach into our communities and share the gospel in a loving, gracious way. If you are in need or know someone who is, please contact Dan Bruce, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at home (802) 457-3975, at his cell number (802) 345-8870, or email him at [rhondan08@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rhondan08@myfairpoint.net).

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## Property Manager Position

FCCW is looking for a Property Manager. This part-time position requires the person or persons to work a flexible schedule, be able to handle a variety of tasks, and be a good steward of FCCW property. Please contact Karl Huck at 802-457-3072 or e-mail him at [karlhuck@gmail.com](mailto:karlhuck@gmail.com) for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

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The January newsletter is on the table in the narthex.

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